

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SPC-01 PM-03 EB-03 SCEM-01 INT-01

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5081

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 30535

LIMDIS - NO FORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, GW

SUBJECT: POMPIDOU-BRANDT SUMMIT

REF: PARIS 30411

1. IN DISCUSSING POMPIDOU-BRANDT TALKS WITH POLCOUNS
NOVEMBER 28, QUAI EUROPEAN DIRECTOR DE MARGERIE HAD
FOLLOWING TO ADD TO WHAT ELYSEE CONTACT TOLD US (REFTEL).

2. "EUROPEAN ENERGY COUNCIL". ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT BE
CERTAIN -- SINCE HE HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN ALL OF THE
BRANDT-POMPIDOU CONVERSATIONS -- DE MARGERIE BELIEVED
THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE MISINFORMATION CIRCULATING
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(AS EVIDENCED BY THE MORNING PRESS) CONCERNING THE SO-

CALLED EUROPEAN ENERGY COUNCIL. DE MARGERIE WAS PRESENT WHEN BRANDT SUGGESTED TO POMPIDOU THAT "THE NINE MEET SOON IN COUNCIL TO ADDRESS URGENT ENERGY PROBLEM." IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER BRANDT MEANT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS, OR EC TECHNICAL MINISTERS CONCERNED WITH VARIOUS FACETS OF ENERGY QUESTION, OR BOTH, WHEN HE SUGGESTED MEETING IN COUNCIL. HOWEVER, DE MARGERIE THOUGHT IT WAS REASONABLY CLEAR THAT BRANDT WAS NOT PROPOSING A NEW EC ORGANISM TO DEAL WITH ENERGY PROBLEMS, NOR DID HE APPEAR TO BE REFERRING TO THE "CRISIS CONSULTATION PROCEDURE" SUGGESTED BY POMPIDOU ON OCTOBER 31. RE LATTER, DE MARGERIE POINTED OUT THAT SOME FACILITIES FOR CRISIS CONSULTATION WERE ALREADY IN USE AMONG THE NINE ; E.G. TELEX SYSTEM CONNECTING THE NINE FOREIGN MINISTRIES.

3. DEFENSE. DE MARGERIE SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE BRANDT AND POMPIDOU HAD DISCUSSED SPECIFIC STEPS TO BE TAKEN AMONG THE NINE ON DEFENSE QUESTIONS. THEY HAD AGREED , HOWEVER, NOT TO EXCLUDE ANY FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF DEFENSE MATTERS. REFERRING TO JOBERT'S WEU SPEECH (PARIS 30340), DE MARGERIE SAID FRENCH WERE TRYING TO STIMULATE EUROPEAN ALLIES TO "THINK ABOUT" EUROPEAN DEFENSE, TO MOVE BEYOND OLD CLICHES TO DISCUSS WHAT EUROPE MIGHT DO ABOUT ITS OWN DEFENSE IN ORDER TO MAKE A DISTINCT CONTRIBUTION TO THE "GLOBAL SECURITY OF THE ALLIANCE". GOF HAS NO PARTICULAR PROPOSALS TO MAKE ON EUROPEAN DEFENSE. AT THIS POINT, SAID DE MARGERIE, FRANCE IS FINDING IT DIFFICULT ENOUGH JUST TO PROD MORE CONSERVATIVE EUROPEAN PARTNERS INTO CONTEMPLATING WESTERN EUROPE'S FUTRURE SECURITY. IN THE FUTURE, A DISTINCTLY "EUROPEAN" DEFENSE CONTRIBUTION WOULD ADD TO ALLIANCE DETERRENCE SINCE IT WOULD INCREASE UNPREDICTABILITY OF THE WEST FROM SOVIET STANDPOINT. DE MARGERIE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER EUROPEAN DEFENSE WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT EC SUMMIT IN DECEMBER, SINCE THERE IS AGREEMENT THAT AGENDA SHOULD BE UNSTRUCTURED.

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